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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: Goudsmit et al.
Serial No.: 09/760,085
Filed: January 12, 2001

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Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

AMENDMENT

This is responsive to the October 4, 2002 Office Action issued for the above-identified patent application. Please amend the application as follows and consider the following remarks.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows. An Appendix entitled "Marked-up Version Showing Changes Made" is attached hereto.

16. (Twice amended) A method for separating single stranded nucleic acid from double stranded nucleic acid, comprising the steps of:

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contacting a mixture comprising both single stranded nucleic acid and double stranded nucleic acid with a first liquid comprising a chaotropic agent and a nucleic acid binding solid phase in the absence of material containing alcohol groups, wherein the first liquid has a composition such that the double stranded nucleic acid binds to the solid phase;

separating the solid phase from a supernatant containing the single stranded nucleic acid; and